

## University of Dundee

## V&A London

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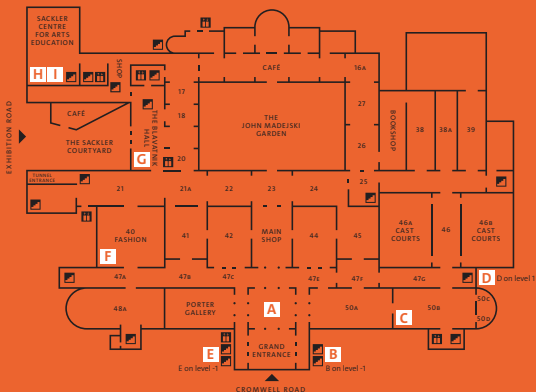
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V&A  
**FRIDAY**

WALK

# Level 0



# IN THE PALM OF YOUR HAND

Friday 31 January

18.30 – 22.00

Whether to swipe, scroll or type, the way we use our hands is evolving. Yet the desire to keep restless fingers busy is nothing new. From using tools, to communication, comfort and care, our hands allow us to make connections and manipulate the world around us. This Friday Late, take part in a workshop to question the ritual of handshaking and explore the language of hands through dance. Use emoji gestures to decode the narrative of paintings and explore the future of prosthetic hands. Help your fingers cope with smartphone withdrawal and use embroidery

to consider the hand's symbolic status.

All events are free and places are designated on a first-come, first-served basis unless stated otherwise. Filming and photography will take place at this event. If you have any access requirements, please let us know in advance by emailing [disability@vam.ac.uk](mailto:disability@vam.ac.uk).

Please note, if the V&A reaches capacity we will allow access on a one-in, one-out basis.

#FridayLate

## Events

- A** All Hands on Deck
- B** Hands as windows to the soul in medieval art
- C** Substitute Phones
- D** Are handmade objects more tactile than machine-made objects?
- E** Milligrant Girl, Digital World
- F** Hands of X
- G** The Hidden Energy of our Hands
- H** Palms of Protection
- I** The Handshake
- J** Clenches of the Heart
- K** The Hands of Time
- L** Holding Your Hand

A

## All Hands on Deck

*Grand Entrance, Cromwell Road*

All Hands on Deck is a Manchester-based collective and open deck party for women, non-binary and trans DJs. They encourage DJs of all levels, running welcoming, low pressure and inclusive parties and workshops. AHoD are residents at Limbo Radio, Common and Partisan Collective in Manchester. Give them a wave and join them for a dance!

@allhandsOndeck

**B**

## **Hands as windows to the soul in medieval art**

*Medieval & Renaissance*

*300–1500, Room 10*

19.00, 19.45

Please note these tours have a limited capacity. Sign up from 18.30.

For the Ancient Greek physician Hippocrates, the thumb was ‘the great finger’ which enabled the other fingers of the hand to function. Thumbs and fingers allow us to grasp and create, and so hands distinguish humans from animals. From Aristotle onwards, hand gestures have been interpreted as clues to character and emotional state. In this tour, curator Kirstin Kennedy explores the meaning of gestures and the importance of touch in the art and design of the medieval Christian world.





## Substitute Phones

*Medieval & Renaissance*

*1350–1600, Room 50b*

*The Paul and Jill Ruddock Gallery*

The shape of the Substitute Phone replicates a generic smartphone; however, its functions are reduced to the movements we make hundreds of times a day. The stone beads incorporated in the body let you scroll, zoom and swipe with no digital functions. The phone, which can be described as a prosthesis, is reduced to nothing but the motions. Scroll, zoom or swipe and see how it might offer a therapeutic approach to smartphone withdrawal symptoms.

@klemens\_schillinger  
klemensschillinger.com



## **Are handmade objects more tactile than machine-made objects?**

*Medieval & Renaissance*

*300–1600, Room 64b*

*The Simon Sainsbury Gallery*

20.00

For 25 years, designer Gareth Neal has questioned the relationship with digital manufacturing within the definition of craft. A counterpoint to his knowledge of digital manufacturing is his deeply rooted interest and knowledge of traditional skills, tools and techniques. In this talk Gareth discusses whether craft itself is defined by the handmaking process, or whether in today's digital era, craft can mean something more?

@garethnealfurniture  
garethneal.co.uk



## Milligrant Girl, Digital World

*Europe 1600–1815 Galleries*

*The Salon, Room 4*

19.00, 20.30

Habesha by way of London, multidisciplinary artist lula.xyz (Lula Mebrahtu) is the vanguard of creative expression. Equipped with a soulful timbre and the pioneering wearable musical instrument MiMu Gloves, lula.xyz sings about a lived experience past, present and future. In this performance, Lula presents works from her current EP, 'From My Hands To Your Ears', taking you on a journey from the jazzy streets of Dalston to a Habesha+NYLon tribal and electro grit landscape.

@lula.xyz

[lula.xyz](http://lula.xyz)



## Hands of X

*Fashion, Room 40*

Can prosthetic hands be obviously artificial but resolutely unremarkable? And how can we give wearers a chance to specify a hand that really feels like theirs? Hands of X is a project about prosthetic hands, fashion and ownership. Explore prototype hands in a plethora of materials and specify your own hand influenced by fashion accessories and domestic products. This activity was designed by Andrew Cook and Graham Pullin with V&A Dundee for the exhibition Hands of X: Design Meets Disability, 2019.

@studioordinarydundee  
studioordinary.co.uk



## The Hidden Energy of our Hands

*The Blavatnik Hall*

19.00, 20.00

Please note these talks have a limited capacity. Sign up from 18.30.

In this interactive talk, join Toni Rutherford to uncover the different types of energy that sit passively within our hands. Find out how smart materials and new technologies merge physical touch with digital display and discuss the potential for future applications. How can touch bring objects to life and provide a bridge between the physical and digital worlds we inhabit?

@toni.m.rutherford



## Palms of Protection

*Art Studio, Sackler Centre  
for arts education*

19.00, 20.30

Please note these workshops have a limited capacity. Sign up from 18.30.

Lizzy Vartanian Collier is a fourth-generation embroiderer, a craft which has been passed down from women to women in the Middle East. In this workshop, Lizzy takes you through this ancient art as you create a collective hamsa, a palm-shaped amulet and symbol of protection that commonly appears across West Asia and North Africa. Learn more about the symbol as you embroider a palm of protection together.

@lizzyvartanian



## The Handshake

*Lunchroom 1, Sackler Centre  
for arts education*

19.45, 21.00

Please note these workshops have a limited capacity. Sign up from 18.30.

We shake hands in many different scenarios yet don't take the time to consider this intimate act. Depending on when, why and how we shake hands, we ultimately exchange a piece of ourselves. Join creative event producer Georgeenia Ariaratnam in this interactive discussion workshop to explore and share how the handshake makes us feel and how greetings may vary across customs and traditions.

@georgeeniaa



## Clenches of the Heart

*The Lydia and Manfred Gorvy*

*Lecture Theatre, Level 3*

19.45, 21.00

Choreographer and dance artist Julia Cheng presents a new movement piece inspired by palm meridians, waacking and qi gong to explore hands as windows to the body and heart.

‘In the palm of grip, memory of you tight within a grasp, if I let go, the water will fall out. If it soaks for just a second, 60 seconds can be wide. With each crease, line, formation, triangles and shapes. Among the wrinkles, the blotches of blood stain show the imprint that carries on as I walk, stand, lay and open the fist to speak.’

@juliachenghoa  
houseofabsolute.com





## The Hands of Time

*Paintings, Room 81 and 82  
The Edwin and Susan Davies  
Galleries*

Emoji and museum collections may not seem to have a lot in common. But collections, whether art or emoji, are full of symbols. In this augmented reality installation, Lara Chapman explores the V&A's paintings collection through the lens of emoji, decoding narratives that have traversed digital and physical divides. Discover the uncanny parallels and surprising differences in the representations of hands and gesture across time and media.

@laralilychapman  
lara-chapman.com



## Holding Your Hand

*Prince Consort Gallery, Room 110*

Sola Olulode's figurative paintings portray a nuanced and tender vision of relationships and intimacy. Olulode aims to overlay, deepen, and reflect the identities of the black womxn she depicts rather than simplify and register them as a 'subject'. Through colour and painterly brushwork, Olulode's hand employs a range of media: indigo and other dyes, wax, oil bar, and impasto lashings of paint.

@solaolulode

## **ALSO ON TONIGHT**

### **Mary Quant**

Until 16 February 2020

Sponsored by King's Road

With support from

GRoW @ Annenberg

### **Tim Walker:**

### **Wonderful Things**

Until 22 March 2020

### **Cars: Accelerating the Modern World**

Until 19 April 2020

Supported by Bosch

## COVER ARTWORK


Zhong Lin  
@zhonglin\_

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